



PALATINE CELTIC SOCCER CLUB

TRAVEL TEAM TRYOUT PROCEDURES

1. Travel Team Coach Selection Process:

- a. Travel Team coaches will be determined prior to Spring tryouts
- b. Travel Team Tryout Procedures will be explained to all Travel Team coaches and evaluators prior to Spring tryouts.

2. Publicity for Travel Team Open Tryouts:

- a. Set dates for Spring Travel Team Open Tryouts prior to April BOD Meeting and Fall Travel Team Open Tryouts prior to October BOD Meeting.
- b. Post Travel Team Open Tryout Announcements in *Footnotes*, local newspapers, and Club website.
- c. Create handouts for distribution via current Travel and House Coaches, House Division Directors, etc.
- d. Distribute tryout information to William Fremd HS and Palatine HS coaches.
- e. Prior to tryouts, Travel Staff will distribute guidelines to the Celtic Program families, players, and parents explaining policies, expectations, costs, do's and don'ts, helpful hints, etc, which will assist in setting realistic expectations of parents, players, & coaches.

3. Open Tryout Session Design and Selection Criteria:

- a. Open Tryouts will follow IYSA recommended plan: 1v1, 4v4, 7v7, 11v11, and probable vs. possible at full team size stage.
- b. All age groups will use a standard format as approved by the 2nd VP-Travel and Director of Player Development.
- c. All players will be trying out for the first team according to the Travel Rules in each of the age groups and that first team shall be the most competitive team possible as determined by the Selection Staff. The 2nd VP-Travel and Director of Player Development shall determine if sufficient quality players are interested to field additional Travel Teams in any age group.
- d. No speed trials or non-game speed skill testing.
- e. Selection staff will consist of independent evaluators as selected by the 2nd VP-Travel and Director of Player Development and Club Head Coaches. Club Head Coaches will conduct the tryouts for each respective age group.

4. Tryout Meeting:

- a. A mandatory pre-tryout meeting will be conducted for all involved Club Head Coaches and independent evaluators. Best efforts will be made to utilize the Club Head Coaches as independent evaluators for teams which they have not been directly associated with.
- b. At this meeting, all tryout procedures will be reviewed in detail.
- c. Special attention will be given to any unfair tryout practices; such as, reserving spots.
- d. All Head Coaches will be advised that anyone who conducts unfair tryouts will be removed.

5. Open Tryout Duration/Organization:

- a. U9-10....2 - 2 hour open tryouts
U11-14...2 - 2 hour open tryouts
U15-19...2 - 2 hour open tryouts
- b. Open Tryout duration may be adjusted as needed due to attendance, weather factors, etc.

- c. All players must attend at least one full open tryout session for the appropriate age group for evaluation. If unable to do so due to an injury, approval by 2nd VP-Travel or Director of Player Development must be received for inclusion on the Tryout Roster.
- d. No additional open tryout sessions will be conducted; however, additional closed tryout sessions may be scheduled for the sole purpose of deciding amongst players already on the Tryout Roster. U9-U14 players will be evaluated in separate age appropriate groups (i.e., U12 and U13 are on separate fields)
- e. U15-19 players will be evaluated in separate team groups by the specific age team desired by the player (i.e., U15 and U19 are on separate fields). Selection Staff may recommend changes if player appears to be mismatched for the specific group desired. Any U15 and older player may try out for any U15-19 team they qualify for.
- f. If any additional tryout sessions are required for reasons not covered above, the Selection Staff, with approval of the 2nd VP-Travel or Director of Player Development, will conduct such tryouts.

6. Open Tryout Registration:

- a. Travel Coordinator will secure appropriate volunteer administration for player registration, compilation of the tryout roster, and follow up until all team notices are completed. Travel Directors will be available to answer questions.
- b. Players may pre-register through the Palatine Park District.
- c. All players and parents should complete a Palatine Park District registration/waiver form before being allowed to participate in any tryout session.
- d. 2nd VP and/or Director of Player Development will hold all evaluation forms at the conclusion of tryouts.
- e. Travel Directors will ensure that notification cards are sent and that all Head Coaches make phone calls in a timely manner.
- f. The manner in which players will be notified of team invitations will be communicated at registration as listed under Tryout Results Notification.

7. Team Formation for U9-U14 Age Groups:

- a. The Selection Staff for the U9-U14 age groups will work together to create team rosters for both the first team and any second team in each age group, as applicable. If the Selection Staff cannot agree on a team roster, it will be re-worked or resolved by the 2nd VP-Travel and Director of Player Development.
- b. Initial tryout session results will be compiled and initial team roster invitations will be determined immediately after the last tryout session. Rosters for each team must meet the 75% Palatine Park District residency requirement.
- c. 2nd VP-Travel and Director of Player Development will review all tryout results before any communication to players. Travel Directors will review the tryout roster to ensure that all invitees participated in at least one full open tryout session and that invitations/result notifications are provided to all players listed on the tryout roster.
- d. Initial roster invitations for the first team and any second teams in each age group, as applicable, will be communicated in the manner listed under Tryout Results Notification.
- e. Final rosters will be forwarded to the Travel Coordinator for review by the appropriate Travel Director, 2nd VP-Travel, and Director of Player Development and then added to the Club's Travel Roster Book.

8. Team Formation for U15 and Above Age Groups:

- a. The Selection Staff for the U15 and above age groups will work together to create team rosters for both the first team and any second team in each age group, as applicable. If the Selection Staff cannot agree on a team roster, it will be re-worked or resolved by the 2nd VP-Travel or Director of Player Development.
- b. The initial goal will be to field as many teams as possible at the highest competitive level possible (i.e., forming IWSL "A" Division teams is first priority for girls teams).

Rosters for each team must meet the 75% Palatine Park District residency requirement.

- c. Any player who refuses an invitation from a team because he/she is waiting for an invitation from another team is not guaranteed a spot on the first team. For example, if a 14 yr. old player insists on trying out for the U17 team and is not invited by the U17 team, she/he is not guaranteed a spot on the U15 team. The Selection Staff will make all reasonable attempts to place available players on appropriate teams.
- d. All other guidelines listed as Team Formation for U9-U14 Age Groups will otherwise apply.

9. Tryout Results Notification:

- a. Initial team selections will be communicated to the Travel Coordinator and reviewed by the appropriate Travel Director, 2nd VP-Travel, and Director of Player Development.
- b. All players will be designated as “selected”, “alternate”, or “not selected”. No team will delay any other team’s selections while “negotiating” with first choices. All reasonable attempts will be made to achieve 8-10, 12-14, or 16-18 player rosters for each team dependent upon age.
- c. The Head Coach for each team will contact all players to secure acceptances and arrange movement of any players from the second team or alternate list, if applicable, to the first team. All returning Travel players will also be notified directly by the appropriate Head Coach if selected to a team, selected as an alternate, or not selected at all.
- d. Players not considered returning Travel players who are not selected for a team will receive notification postcards.
- e. Several qualified volunteers will be secured by the Travel Directors and/or Travel Coordinator to assist the Travel Directors and Travel Coordinator with tryout registration and completing tryout rosters and notification cards. Identification of potential problems will be communicated directly to the Travel Directors, 2nd VP-Travel, and Director of Player Development. These volunteers will be asked to be available only through tryout and initial notification phase.

10. Late/Incomplete Tryouts:

- a. Any player currently living in the Palatine area during the period of open tryout sessions must participate in at least one open tryout session and complete the tryout roster.
- b. Any injured player returning to a Travel Team may be listed on the tryout roster as “injured”, with approval of the 2nd VP-Travel or Director of Player Development, if they are present at an open tryout session.
- c. Any injured player may be listed on the tryout roster as “injured”, with approval of the 2nd VP-Travel or Director of Player Development, if they are present at an open tryout session after participating in a closed tryout session with any other players from the open tryout sessions.
- d. Any player who moves into the Palatine area after open tryout sessions are completed may be considered for a team if they attend a closed tryout session, which includes an invitation to all players who were selected as “alternate” on the tryout roster, and approval by the 2nd VP-Travel & Director of Player Development.

11. Documentation:

Travel Team Tryout Procedures will be reviewed and possibly revised each year after evaluation by the Travel Committee and approval by the Board of Directors following U15-U19 boys tryouts.